United Nations A/69/96

General Assembly

Distr.: General
18 June 2014

Original: English

Sixty-ninth session
Item 70 (a) of the preliminary list*
Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations

Central Emergency Response Fund

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report provides a description of the activities of the Central Emergency Response Fund from 1 January to 31 December 2013. The Fund continues to demonstrate its effectiveness as a tool for collective emergency response to the world's most urgent crises by providing reliable, timely and targeted funding for life-saving humanitarian projects. During the reporting period, the Emergency Relief Coordinator allocated $482 million from the rapid response and underfunded emergency grant windows and $27 million from the loan facility of the Fund to support activities in 45 countries and territories. Member States and the private sector contributed $477.3 million to the Fund for 2013, the highest-ever annual total. In 2013, the secretariat of the Fund completed the implementation of the management response plan for the five-year independent evaluation of the Fund, given that all recommendations directly under its control had been implemented successfully.

* A/69/50.

14-55622 (E) 070714

Please recycle

I. Introduction

1. The present report is submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution 68/102 on strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations, in which the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit a report on the detailed use of the Central Emergency Response Fund. The report covers the Fund's activities from 1 January to 31 December 2013.

II. Overview of the Central Emergency Response Fund

A. Funding commitments

2. During the reporting period, the Emergency Relief Coordinator approved grants totalling $482 million to 45 countries and territories (see table 1), comprising $307.5 million for new or rapidly deteriorating crises through the rapid response window and $174.5 million for forgotten or neglected crises through the underfunded emergency window. The Coordinator also approved a loan of $27 million for the World Food Programme (WFP) to support emergency operations in the Syrian Arab Republic and neighbouring countries. By the end of 2013, Fund allocations since its inception in 2006 exceeded $3.25 billion to 88 countries and a territory.

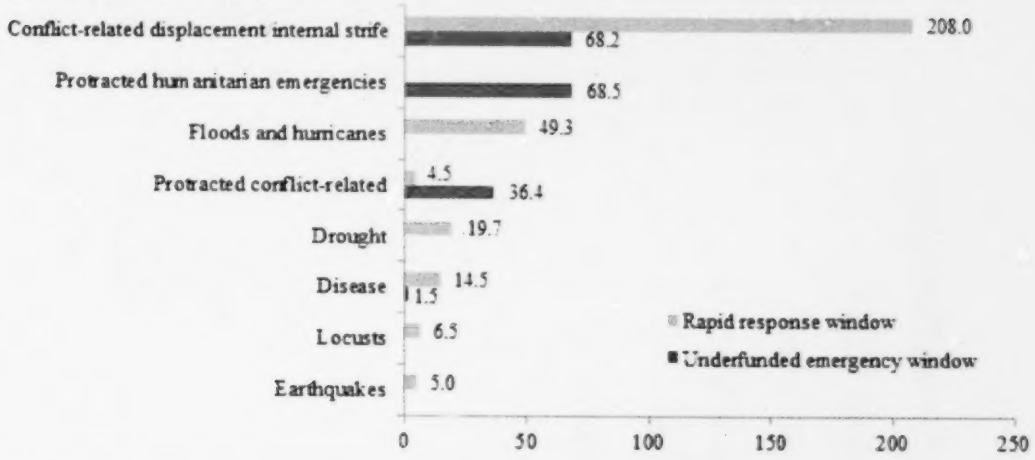
Table 1
Central Emergency Response Fund allocations from 1 January to 31 December 2013
(United States dollars)

	Rapid response window	*Underfunded emergency window*	***Total***
Amount approved	307 529 664	174 474 142	**482 003 806**
Number of recipient countries or territories	37	22	**45**[a]
Number of projects funded	313	215	**528**
Average project amount	982 523	811 507	**912 886**

[a] Certain countries or territories received allocations from both funding windows.

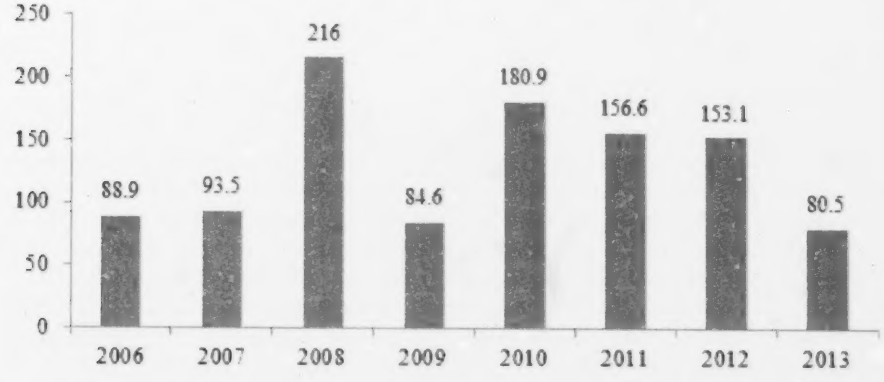
3. The Fund disburses grants to programmes, specialized agencies and funds of the United Nations, as well as to the International Organization for Migration (IOM) (referred to collectively as "agencies" herein). In 2013, grants were allocated to agencies to support life-saving projects in several types of emergencies (see figure I). During the reporting period, 57 per cent of funds supported projects in conflict-related emergencies. Most conflict-related allocations went to projects in the Sudan ($41.9 million), the Syrian Arab Republic ($40.4 million), Somalia ($19.8 million) and Mali ($17.9 million). With additional allocations to address the needs of Syrians who had fled to Lebanon ($17.5 million), Jordan ($14.8 million) and Iraq ($10 million), the Fund allocated a total of $82.7 million to respond to the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic.

Figure I
Central Emergency Response Fund 2013 allocations by emergency type
(Millions of United States dollars)



4. Fund grants to support life-saving activities following natural disasters, including an earthquake in the Philippines, floods in Mozambique and drought in the Plurinational State of Bolivia, totalled $80.5 million in 2013. The largest amount for a single natural disaster, $25.3 million, went to the emergency response following Typhoon Haiyan (locally known as Yolanda) in the Philippines. Figure II shows funding for natural disaster responses since the Fund's inception in 2006.

Figure II
Central Emergency Response Fund total allocations to natural disasters, 2006-2013
(Millions of United States dollars)



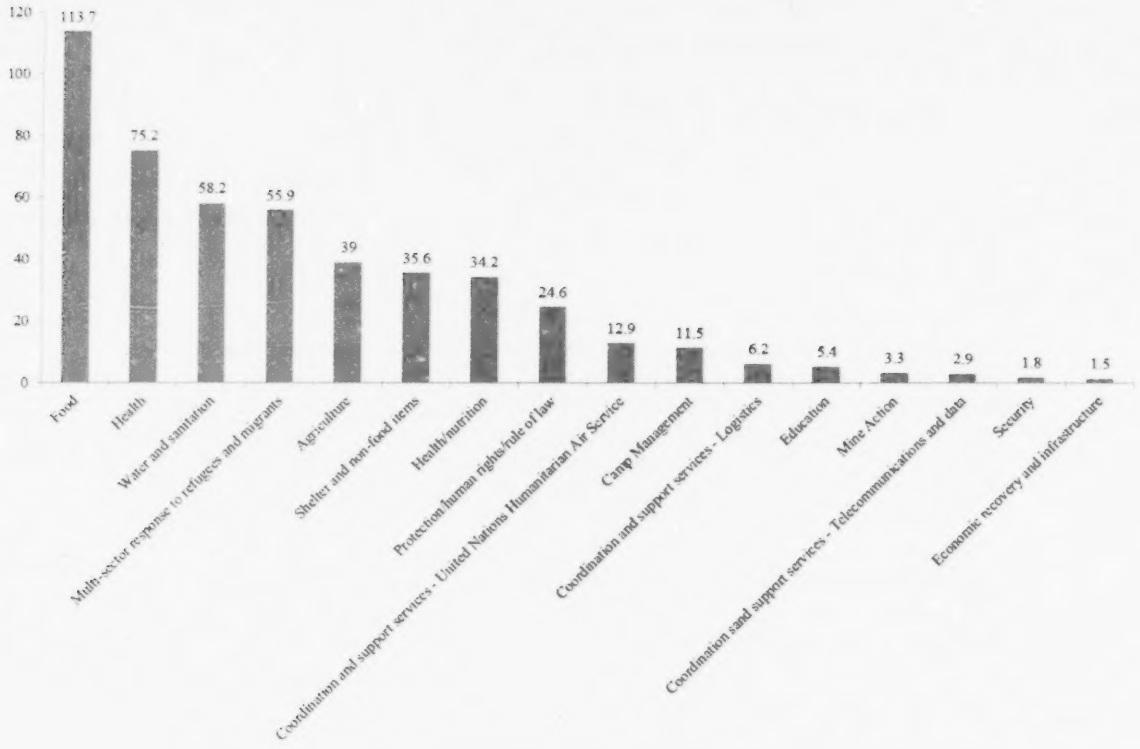
5. In terms of humanitarian sectors, funding for food assistance ($113.7 million), health care ($75.2 million) and water and sanitation ($58.2 million) totalled more than 51 per cent of all Fund allocations in 2013. The proportion of allocations for coordination and support services, such as telecommunications, logistics and camp management, doubled compared with 2012. The increases were primarily related to

the challenge of meeting humanitarian needs in multiple and geographically dispersed crises in the Philippines (conflict, an earthquake and two typhoons). Figure III shows the grant allocations by sector for 2013.

Figure III

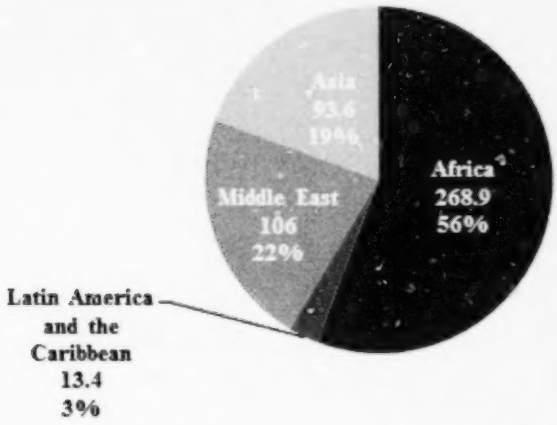
Central Emergency Response Fund, 2013 grant allocations by sector

(Millions of United States dollars)



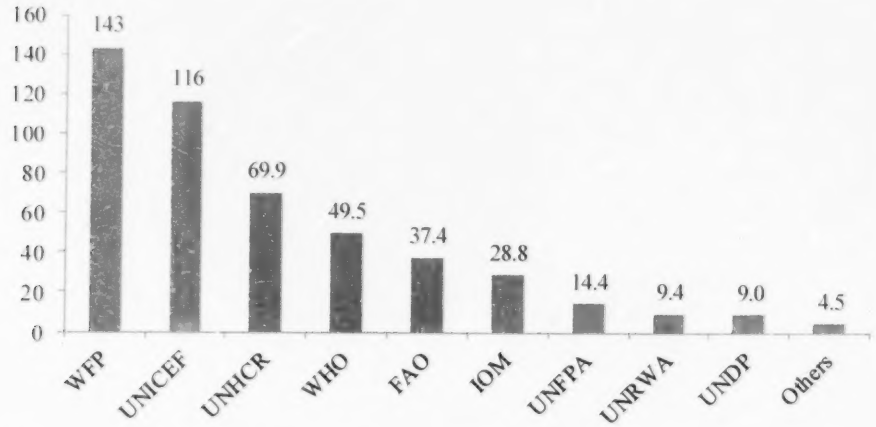
6. Of all regions, Africa received the largest grant allocation from the Fund in 2013 (56 per cent). The Sudan was the largest recipient, globally, and Ethiopia and Somalia ranked fourth and fifth (see annex III). Driven by humanitarian demands relating to the crisis in the Syrian Arab Republic, allocations to the Middle East increased by more than 50 per cent, to $106 million, compared with 2012. This is the largest proportion (22 per cent) of grant allocations from the Fund that the region has ever received in a single year. Grant allocations from the Fund to Asia totalled $93.6 million (19 per cent), while allocations to Latin American and Caribbean countries totalled $13.4 million (3 per cent). Figure IV shows the grant allocations by region for 2013.

Figure IV
Central Emergency Response Fund, 2013 grant allocations by region
(Millions of United States dollars and percentage)



7. Consistent with previous Fund allocations, the two largest grant-receiving agencies during the reporting period were WFP and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), together accounting for 54 per cent of total allocations (30 and 24 per cent, respectively). The next largest recipients were the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the World Health Organization (WHO), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and IOM. Combined, they received 39 per cent of the Fund's grant allocations. The remaining 7 per cent of funding was allocated among nine agencies (see figure V).

Figure V
Central Emergency Response Fund, 2013 allocations by agency
(Millions of United States dollars)



Abbreviations: FAO, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations; IOM, International Organization for Migration; UNDP, United Nations Development Programme; UNFPA, United Nations Population Fund; UNHCR, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees; UNICEF, United Nations Children's Fund; UNRWA, United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East; WHO, World Health Organization. "Others" includes: Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS; United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization; United Nations Human Settlements Programme; Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights; United Nations Office for Project Services; and United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women.

8. The Fund's underfunded emergency window had a record year in 2013. During the two allocation rounds, the Emergency Relief Coordinator approved $175 million (some 10 per cent more than the previous high in 2012) to sustain aid operations in neglected crises. During the first round, the Fund allocated $99.6 million to 12 countries. During the second round, the Fund provided $74.9 million for crises in 13 countries (see table 2). Three countries received allocations during both underfunded rounds: the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti and Haiti.

Table 2
Underfunded emergency window allocations in 2013
(United States dollars)

Country	*First round*	*Second round*
Afghanistan	16 574 042	
Algeria	2 984 040	
Bangladesh		2 000 642
Burundi	2 970 162	
Chad		8 205 856
Colombia		3 493 954
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	7 001 300	5 995 379
Djibouti	3 312 737	2 994 281
Eritrea	3 055 305	
Ethiopia	17 000 030	
Haiti	5 985 036	1 495 064
Liberia	2 991 937	
Madagascar		3 003 483
Mauritania		4 008 632
Myanmar		2 999 832
Niger		7 891 736
Pakistan		10 001 780
Philippines		2 998 998
Somalia		19 787 197
Sudan	16 922 090	
Uganda	3 999 807	
Yemen	16 800 822	
Total	**99 597 308**	**74 876 834**

9. Pursuant to resolution 66/119, the Fund maintains a $30 million loan element in reserve that can be used, in exceptional circumstances and on a time-bound basis, to provide emergency loans to enhance rapid response coordination where insufficient capacity exists at the field level. In the third quarter of 2013, WFP requested a loan of $27 million to tackle malnutrition among people internally displaced by the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic. The Emergency Relief Coordinator authorized the loan, allowing WFP to meet urgent needs on the ground and position food in critical areas before winter.

B. Strategic use of the Central Emergency Response Fund

10. In 2013, the Fund contributed to life-saving humanitarian action worldwide. It demonstrated its effectiveness through appropriate and timely funding, including for sudden-onset natural disasters and protracted complex emergencies. In each case, a tailored and needs-driven approach was critical in enabling humanitarian partners to

plan their activities strategically and to use resources efficiently. In line with the Inter-Agency Standing Committee Transformative Agenda, the Fund paid particular attention to supporting coordination mechanisms and to bolstering the quality of response across the humanitarian system through stronger leadership, greater accountability and better preparedness.

11. During the reporting period, the Fund continued to implement and assess the effectiveness of Transformative Agenda protocols relating to its role in system-wide level 3 emergencies (the highest Standing Committee emergency designation). For example, a level 3 activation triggers an immediate initial Fund allocation of between $10 million and $20 million, to be issued by the Emergency Relief Coordinator in support of identified priorities within 72 hours of the onset of the crisis. This first allocation helps to establish coordination mechanisms, common services and appropriate staffing levels, while further allocations depend on the evolving situation on the ground and the findings of more detailed assessments.

12. During the reporting period, the international humanitarian system was tested by simultaneous large-scale crises, with the Standing Committee declaring three level 3 emergencies: one for the protracted complex emergency in the Syrian Arab Republic, one for the rapidly intensifying conflict in the Central African Republic and one following Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines. The demands for humanitarian action and its delivery methods varied significantly in each situation, but the Fund played a key role in funding each response.

1. Rapid response

13. The Fund uses the rapid response window to promote early response to humanitarian needs. Funds help to support life-saving humanitarian activities in the initial stages of a sudden-onset crisis. They also support the response to time-critical requirements or a significant deterioration in an existing emergency.

14. The humanitarian situation in the Syrian Arab Republic continued to deteriorate in 2013. By the end of the reporting period, the number of people in need had risen to 9.3 million, about half of the country's population. At least 2.3 million people had fled the country to seek refuge in Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey and elsewhere, putting significant pressures on host communities. In 2013, the Emergency Relief Coordinator authorized a series of rapid response allocations from the Fund, totalling $82.7 million, to meet the most critical humanitarian needs. The Fund supported a regional response to the crisis by approving grants for the Syrian Arab Republic ($40.4 million), Lebanon ($17.5 million), Jordan ($14.8 million) and Iraq ($10 million). Those allocations accounted for more than 17 per cent of Fund allocations in the reporting period. The funds helped to ensure the delivery of critical aid, including food and shelter, and water, sanitation and health services. The allocations enabled UNICEF to provide life-saving assistance to millions of children inside the Syrian Arab Republic, the escalating armed conflict notwithstanding. They also enabled WHO to procure life-saving medicines and medical equipment, which contributed to the provision of health services to thousands of Syrians.

15. In March 2013, a violent crisis unfolded in the Central African Republic, with significant humanitarian consequences for the region. The Emergency Relief Coordinator approved rapid response grants in May for humanitarian assistance in the Central African Republic ($7.1 million) and in the Democratic Republic of the

Congo ($8.1 million), where refugees from the Central African Republic had begun to arrive. When renewed fighting escalated to intercommunal violence in December, an estimated 2.3 million people, more than half of the country's population, were affected and needed urgent humanitarian assistance. By the end of 2013, almost 1 million people had been displaced. On 9 December, the Coordinator approved a Fund allocation of $9.8 million to support relief efforts in the Central African Republic. In neighbouring Chad, agencies received $4.2 million shortly thereafter to support refugees from the Central African Republic. The allocations allowed agencies, including IOM, the Department of Safety and Security of the Secretariat, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), UNHCR, UNICEF and WFP, to provide protection and safety services, health care, shelter, food and clean water. Total Fund allocations addressing the crisis in and around the Central African Republic amounted to $27.5 million in 2013.

16. In May 2013, a polio outbreak threatened millions of people throughout eastern Africa and Yemen. The Emergency Relief Coordinator allocated $5 million from the Fund to inoculate some 5.5 million children in Kenya, Somalia and Yemen. The timing of the response was coordinated to contain the outbreak in affected countries simultaneously. WHO and UNICEF conducted emergency vaccination campaigns for 900,000 children in high-risk areas of northern Kenya, including the Dadaab and Kakuma refugee camps. In Somalia, emergency vaccination campaigns targeted more than 2 million children in southern and central Somalia, "Puntland" and "Somaliland". In Yemen, the risk of the virus spreading was elevated because of the high flows of Somali migrants and refugees and a drop in immunization coverage over the past two years. Emergency vaccination campaigns in Yemen reached an estimated 2.5 million children in high-risk areas.

17. The Fund's early response was particularly critical for an effective humanitarian response following the devastation caused by Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines on 8 November 2013. The typhoon resulted in the largest loss of life from a natural disaster that year. More than 14 million people, including 5.4 million children, were affected. Following initial needs assessments by a United Nations disaster assessment and coordination team, and in consultation with the in-country humanitarian coordinator, the Emergency Relief Coordinator authorized a rapid response grant of $25.3 million on 10 November to kick-start major recovery efforts. Almost half of the Fund allocations went to IOM and UNICEF for emergency shelter, camp management and the provision of clean water and sanitation. A total of $6.5 million went to partners, including WFP, UNDP and the Department of Safety and Security, for emergency response support services, such as logistics, information technology, telecommunications and debris removal, and safety and security. The Fund secretariat fast-tracked proposal vetting and worked with the Office of Programme Planning, Budget and Accounts to expedite administrative procedures for the crisis. Doing so enabled funds to be disbursed, on average, within 2.2 days of project submission. The Fund was the first major source of funding to the Typhoon Haiyan action plan and remained the largest single contributor to the emergency response for several weeks. The Fund allocations were particularly vital in establishing and supporting cluster coordination mechanisms at the national and subregional levels. The Fund allocations enabled UNICEF to establish water, sanitation and hygiene cluster coordination posts in Tacloban and Borongan, which helped to ensure targeted and prioritized aid delivery. WFP used

Fund allocations to boost the delivery of assistance through the emergency telecommunications, logistics and food security clusters.

18. The humanitarian community in the Philippines faced multiple crises in 2013. At the beginning of the year, humanitarian partners were continuing to respond to the needs of 6.2 million people affected by Typhoon Bopha, which had hit the southern Philippines in December 2012. Thousands more people were affected by continued insecurity in Mindanao, for which the Fund allocated $6 million, including $3 million from the underfunded emergency window. On 15 October 2013, an earthquake measuring 7.2 on the Richter scale killed more than 200 people and caused widespread damage in the island province of Bohol. In response, the Fund provided $5 million from its rapid response window to help agencies to provide immediate life-saving assistance. In total, some $36.3 million from the Fund helped agencies to respond to those multiple crises. With support from the Fund, IOM was able to document, profile and track the changing needs of displaced people affected by multiple crises. The information was then shared with the other clusters to ensure that the most vulnerable people received life-saving assistance.

19. In 2013, food insecurity affected 3 million people in Mali, and almost 255,000 people were still displaced owing to the conflict that began in 2012. More than 167,000 Malians had sought refuge in the neighbouring countries of Burkina Faso, Mauritania and the Niger. In February, a rapid response allocation of $1.6 million helped humanitarian partners to strengthen the operational effectiveness of the emergency response with improved emergency telecommunications and common security capacity in regions where an expanded presence was critical to reaching people in need. With the necessary operational conditions in place for humanitarian partners to deliver assistance, a second rapid response grant, of $16.3 million, in March helped nine agencies to meet the most urgent life-saving needs of displaced people in central and northern Mali. The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, UNFPA and UNHCR worked together to prevent gender-based violence. UNICEF helped to protect children from forced recruitment and sexual abuse and provided water, sanitation and hygiene facilities for thousands of people, the United Nations Office for Project Services raised awareness of the dangers of mines and the United Nations Humanitarian Air Service provided safe and reliable air transportation for humanitarian workers and essential humanitarian supplies.

20. Through its rapid response window, the Fund played a critical role in the response to other natural disasters in 2013. When widespread floods affected an estimated 250,000 people in Mozambique in January 2013, the Emergency Relief Coordinator allocated $5.8 million from the Fund to help agencies and the Government swiftly to mount a well-coordinated response. The funds allowed IOM, WFP and WHO to provide immediate assistance, including shelter, food and health services, to more than 160,000 people. Subsequent to that demonstration of the Fund's operational capacity to deliver effectively on the ground, donors provided an additional $12.2 million for the response.

21. In the Plurinational State of Bolivia, a third drought in five years led to severe food insecurity, a health and nutrition crisis and significant loss of livelihoods. A Fund allocation of $2.5 million in October 2013, however, helped FAO, UNICEF, WFP and WHO to provide agricultural assistance, clean water, food and critical health-care services to 62,000 of the most impoverished families.

22. In April 2013, humanitarian partners in Myanmar warned that an estimated 69,000 people already displaced by intercommunal conflict in northern Rakhine State were at risk owing to heavy rains and flooding. Before the rains arrived, the Fund provided a rapid response grant of $5 million to UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF and WHO, which enabled the agencies to improve dangerous shelter, sanitation and health conditions at flood-prone camps and help to mitigate the risk of waterborne diseases.

2. Underfunded emergencies

23. Even relatively small Fund allocations can play a significant role in a humanitarian emergency. This holds particularly true for neglected or smaller emergencies that were never on, or have fallen off, the international community's radar. The allocations can have a major impact by allowing partners to maintain critical elements of a response, or to heighten the world's awareness of the emergency and its funding needs.

24. In late 2012, Yemen witnessed deepening political instability and conflict that increased its funding requirements to $176 million for the 2013 consolidated appeal process, an increase of 22 per cent compared with its requirements in 2012. Owing to the increased humanitarian needs and the inadequate donor response, the Emergency Relief Coordinator allocated $17 million to Yemen to ensure that life-saving relief work could continue and to draw further attention to the crisis. That included $3.8 million for UNHCR to provide protection, shelter and non-food items support to 27,000 internally displaced people and returnees. IOM received $2.7 million for life-saving activities covering health care and nutrition, and water, sanitation and hygiene. UNDP received $2.3 million to support mine clearing and mine risk education projects, which benefited more than 3 million people. With $1.7 million from the Fund, FAO restored the essential agricultural livelihoods assets of thousands of displaced families and their host communities.

25. In January 2013, the Fund allocated $3 million to meet the forgotten needs of thousands of Saharan refugees in Algeria. Some 90,000 registered refugees live in camps in areas with extremely limited agricultural or economic potential and poor access to water and sanitation services. They rely almost entirely on international aid for their daily survival. Assistance has declined in recent years, however. Fund allocations allowed humanitarian partners to provide food and nutrition assistance, and critical water and sanitation, shelter, health and child-protection services. The funds also helped partners to renew the focus of donors on this forgotten crisis. As a result, donors contributed an additional $20.6 million in 2013.

26. In 2013, an estimated 4 million people required urgent humanitarian assistance in the Sudan. Only 56 per cent of the $1 billion requirement of the 2012 Sudan humanitarian workplan was funded by the end of that year, however, which resulted in significant funding gaps, especially in Darfur and eastern Sudan. In response, the Emergency Relief Coordinator allocated $17 million from the underfunded emergency window to focus on a limited number of urgent life-saving activities in the 2013 Sudan humanitarian workplan. Fund allocations supported food security and agriculture, health care, nutrition and protection, and water, sanitation and hygiene.

27. The humanitarian situation in Afghanistan is a protracted emergency, characterized by conflict and sudden-onset natural disasters. Nevertheless, the 2012

Afghanistan consolidated appeal process, which had a requirement of $449 million, received only 50 per cent of the required funding. Humanitarian needs remained high and were expected to worsen with the planned withdrawal of foreign troops. The Emergency Relief Coordinator allocated $17 million from the underfunded emergency window to support the highest priority life-saving needs in the 2013 Common Humanitarian Action Plan. The humanitarian country team used the allocation to expand humanitarian activities into high-needs areas where humanitarian partners had no prior presence. Fund allocations helped to jump-start activities in several basic service clusters in those new locations, including protection and health care. Fund allocations also allowed the United Nations Humanitarian Air Service to open access routes.

28. Chronic vulnerability in Ethiopia is frequently exacerbated by crises relating to drought, flooding, disease outbreaks, intercommunal conflict and refugee influxes from neighbouring countries. Limited funding in 2012 left thousands of people in acute humanitarian need. In response, the Emergency Relief Coordinator allocated $17 million in 2013 from the underfunded emergency window to fill critical gaps in urgent humanitarian programmes. Fund allocations helped IOM, WFP and WHO to provide critical assistance, including emergency food, therapeutic nutrition and emergency shelter.

29. In Somalia, for the first time in five years, and despite continuing fighting in some areas, the number of people in need of life-saving assistance decreased, from more than 1 million to 857,000. That decline reflected modest gains in food security. Decades of conflict continued to jeopardize efforts to build the resilience of Somalis to shocks, and by mid-2013 the Somalia consolidated appeal process had received only 28 per cent of the $1.1 billion requested. There were funding gaps across all humanitarian sectors, but several were approaching critical levels and needed funding to ensure the continuation of life-saving programmes. As part of the second annual tranche of underfunded emergency funding, the Emergency Relief Coordinator approved an allocation of $20 million for humanitarian programmes in Somalia. That funding prioritized the life-saving sectors with the largest shortfalls, including food security, health care, logistics, nutrition, protection and shelter, and water, sanitation and hygiene.

30. In Haiti, a lack of funding dramatically decreased the capacity of the humanitarian community to treat cholera cases. By July 2013, the number of humanitarian organizations providing essential treatment had more than halved. The coverage gap was particularly serious in the north, where most new cholera cases were being recorded. In July, a Fund allocation of $1.5 million helped humanitarian partners to provide treatment in high-risk areas around Cap-Haïtien. The allocation brought the total amount of funding for emergency cholera programmes in Haiti to $4 million in the reporting period.

C. Central Emergency Response Fund administration and management

31. The Central Emergency Response Fund Advisory Group was established pursuant to resolution 60/124 to advise the Secretary-General on the Fund's use and impact. In 2013, the Advisory Group met in May and November and made recommendations to the Secretary-General following both meetings (see A/67/987

and A/68/767, respectively). At the November meeting, the Group welcomed the Controller of the Secretariat, who provided a comprehensive overview of the framework regulating the use of programme support costs and the use of programme support costs earmarked for the corporate initiatives and joint services of the Secretariat. The Group requested the Controller to provide more detailed information about the use and traceability of programme support costs once the new system-wide enterprise resource planning system (Umoja) was in place.

32. During the reporting period, the Fund secretariat continued to take measures to improve its management of the Fund. In keeping with the recommendations of the Advisory Group, the secretariat finalized the implementation of the management response plan for the recommendations of its five-year evaluation, reviewed the effectiveness of its performance and accountability framework and improved the resident coordinator/humanitarian coordinator reporting process by streamlining the input required from agencies in the field.

33. The Fund secretariat developed the management response plan in consultation with relevant stakeholders, following the finalization of the five-year evaluation in July 2011. The plan outlined the response of the Fund secretariat to the evaluation's recommendations. As mentioned in previous reports on the use of the Fund (such as A/68/87), the secretariat has implemented all the recommendations directly under its control. In November 2013, the Advisory Group congratulated the secretariat on the successful implementation of the management response plan in follow-up to the five-year evaluation of the Fund.

34. In 2013, independent humanitarian consultants assessed and reported on the value of the Fund to the humanitarian responses in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Philippines, the Sahel and Yemen. Each report is available on the Fund's website (www.unocha.org/cerf). The studies focused on specific emergencies in various situations, but all reviews found that the Fund had added value to the humanitarian response. There were several findings common to the reviews. Most notably, they found the Fund to be a rapid source of funds during a crisis. Where rapid response applications were submitted early in the crisis, its funds enabled a timely response. Reviews consistently highlighted that the Fund secretariat was quick to process applications once they had been formally submitted. The reviews also found that Fund support was crucial in enabling humanitarian responses in smaller, less-visible emergencies with limited international donor presence.

35. The Fund's performance accountability framework is used to define, manage and monitor performance and accountability processes relating to the Fund's operation. To improve the framework's effectiveness, and by extension the overall management of the Fund, the Fund secretariat commissioned a review of the framework. The review, which was concluded in the fourth quarter of 2013, examined the extent to which the framework met the management requirements of the Emergency Relief Coordinator and the secretariat and the information needs of Fund donors, as well as whether agencies could readily comply with the framework provisions through their monitoring and evaluation systems. The review commended the framework and found that it had achieved its intended objectives. In particular, the review praised the independent country-level reviews and concluded that they had proved to be an important source of information, reducing the problem of the Fund's reliance on self-reporting systems. The review also identified opportunities for improvement. It recommended that the framework should focus on providing

information that would further ensure the Fund's credibility, become a tool for the secretariat to manage the Fund and reflect recent policy changes, such as the humanitarian programme cycle and the Inter-Agency Standing Committee Transformative Agenda initiatives. The Fund secretariat is updating the framework in line with the recommendations. A revised framework will be presented to the Advisory Group at its meeting in November 2014.

36. The annual resident coordinator/humanitarian coordinator narrative reports of the Fund are the official reporting tool on the use of funds by humanitarian country teams. They contain the key results achieved through projects supported by the Fund, including information on gender-equality programming and sex-disaggregated and age-disaggregated data. They provide an explanation of how funds have been prioritized and used to meet life-saving humanitarian needs. In 2013, following consultations with partners and the Advisory Group, the Fund secretariat implemented a revised schedule for the reports. The new approach requires reports to be submitted within three months of project completion, making them more timely, accurate and relevant. It has also eliminated the need for interim reports, reduced the reporting burden on agencies and improved accountability.

37. The Fund secretariat will continue to refine its management of the Fund, in keeping with the recommendations of the Advisory Group, the five-year evaluation and the performance and accountability framework assessment. In particular, the secretariat will seek to broaden and deepen the Fund's donor base in order to reduce its reliance on its top contributors. It will also identify ways to further improve its use of the data collected through the mandatory resident coordinator/humanitarian coordinator reports, to help to refine use of the Fund for greater impact.

III. Funding levels

38. Between 1 January and 31 December 2013, the Fund received $477.3 million in contributions from 65 Member States and observers; the private sector; individuals; and a regional authority. The top 10 donors accounted for 88.9 per cent of the contributions that the Fund received in 2013. Since its inception, the Fund has received $3.3 billion in contributions from 125 Member States and observers; private donors and individuals; and three regional authorities. Since 2006, the Fund has included 41 countries as contributors and recipients.

39. The annual high-level pledging conference of the Fund was held on 13 December 2013 in New York. More than 40 Member States and observers, regional organizations and private donors attended. Together, they pledged $404.6 million to the Fund, $21.2 million more than in 2012 and the second-highest amount pledged since the Fund's inception in 2006.

IV. Conclusion

40. In 2013, the Emergency Relief Coordinator allocated a record $482 million from the Fund for life-saving humanitarian activities in 45 countries and territories. More than $307 million of that amount was allocated for humanitarian activities in new or rapidly deteriorating crises through the Fund's rapid response window and $175 million was allocated to sustain aid operations in neglected crises through the

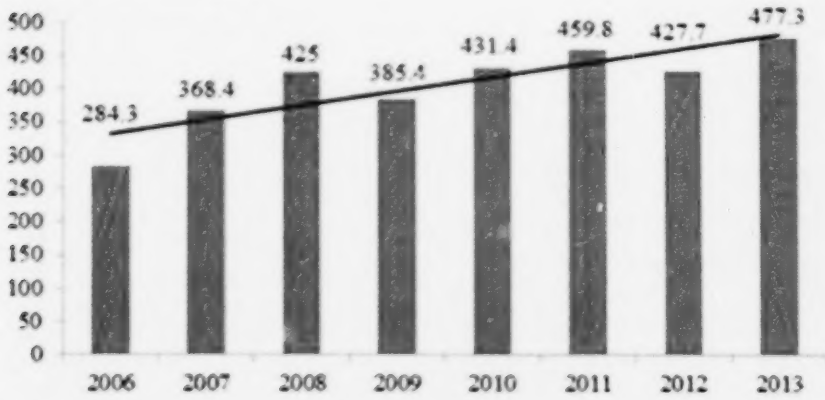
Fund's underfunded emergency window. A greater amount of Fund allocations was targeted to boost the responses to underfunded crises than ever before.

41. Through the generosity of donors, especially the top 10 contributors, the Fund again achieved the objectives assigned to it by the General Assembly. The Fund was better able to respond to the growing requests because contributions for fiscal year 2013 reached a record level of $477.3 million, continuing an upward trend (see figure VI).

Figure VI

Total contributions to the Central Emergency Response Fund, trend by fiscal year

(Millions of United States dollars)



42. The Fund will continue to strengthen its assistance to people affected by crisis through timely and adequate funding. In the context of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee Transformative Agenda and the World Humanitarian Summit, to be held in 2016, the Fund will continue to contribute to improving the leadership, coordination and accountability of humanitarian response efforts. Regarding resource mobilization, efforts will be redoubled to reduce the Fund's dependency on its top contributors and to increase contributions from other Member States and partners.

Annex I

Central Emergency Response Fund grant element: statement of income and expenditure and changes in reserves and fund balances for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2013

(United States dollars)

Income	
Voluntary contributions	477 332 899
Interest income	1 280 646
Other/miscellaneous income[a]	(1 334 072)
Total	**477 279 473**
Expenditure	
Other	453 248 784
Programme support costs (implementing partners)	31 689 936
Subtotal direct expenditure	**484 938 720**
Programme support costs (United Nations)	13 726 195
Total	**498 664 915**
Excess (shortfall) of income over expenditure	(21 385 442)
Prior period adjustments[b]	(2 285 744)
Net excess (shortfall) of income over expenditure	**(23 671 186)**
Transfers (to) from other funds[c]	171 950
Reserves and fund balances, beginning of period	164 706 289
Reserves and fund balances, end of period	**141 207 053**

[a] Represents loss on fluctuation of exchange rates.

[b] Includes net adjustments to prior biennium expenditures of $2,226,439 reported by implementing partners.

[c] Represents transfer from the loan component of the Central Emergency Response Fund in accordance with General Assembly resolution 66/119.

Annex II

Central Emergency Response Fund grant element: contributions pledged from 1 January to 31 December 2013

(United States dollars)

Contributor	*Pledged contributions*[a]
Member States and observers	
Afghanistan	1 000
Andorra	19 646
Argentina	70 000
Armenia	5 000
Australia	18 255 578
Austria	271 370
Azerbaijan	39 820
Belgium	19 283 747
Bhutan	1 500
Brazil	1 000 000
Canada	28 627 069
Chile	30 000
China	500 000
Colombia	100 000
Denmark	24 565 808
Djibouti	1 000
Estonia	102 864
Finland	9 162 304
France	388 098
Germany	19 893 899
Greece	50 000
Guyana	2 184
Hungary	20 353
Iceland	180 000[b]
India	500 000
Indonesia	200 000
Ireland	6 515 938[c]
Italy	653 350
Japan	2 987 013
Kuwait	500 000
Latvia	40 948
Liechtenstein	273 523
Luxembourg	6 105 834
Mexico	350 000

Contributor	*Pledged contributions*[a]
Monaco	64 990
Mongolia	10 000
Morocco	5 000
Montenegro	3 000
Mozambique	2 000
Netherlands	52 356 021
New Zealand	1 661 130
Norway	69 355 722
Pakistan	–[d]
Peru	25 000
Poland	248 162
Portugal	67 935
Qatar	3 000 000
Republic of Korea	4 000 000
Romania	34 435
Russian Federation	1 000 000
Saudi Arabia	450 000
Serbia	7 000
Singapore	50 000
Slovenia	68 726
South Africa	274 469
Spain	9 239 500[e]
Sri Lanka	10 000
Sweden	75 124 544
Switzerland	7 337 526
Thailand	20 000
Turkey	250 000
United Arab Emirates	70 000
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	107 477 583
United States of America	4 000 000
Uruguay	5 000
Viet Nam	–[d]
Sovereign Military Order of Malta	5 000
Total, Member States and observers	**476 920 589**
Others	
Government of Flanders (Belgium)	401 430
Private donations outside United Nations Foundation (under $50,000)	10 880

Contributor	*Pledged contributions*[a]
Private donations through United Nations Foundation (under $50,000)	[f]
Western Union	[f]
Total, others	**412 310**
Total	**477 332 899**

[a] Contributions may differ from the originally recorded pledges owing to fluctuations in exchange rates.

[b] Includes $50,000 pledge for 2012 from Iceland, which was communicated and paid in 2013.

[c] The €5 million pledge for 2013 from Ireland, which was paid in 2012, was reported in 2012.

[d] The pledges for 2013 from Pakistan ($10,000) and Viet Nam ($10,000) were communicated and paid in 2014 and will be reflected in the report in 2015.

[e] Includes a €2 million pledge for 2012 from Spain, which was communicated and paid in 2013.

[f] Contributions from Western Union ($50,000) and private donations ($15,787) collected through the United Nations Foundation were received in 2014 and will be reflected in the report in 2015.

Annex III

Total grants allocated from the Central Emergency Response Fund, from 1 January 2013 to 31 December 2013

(United States dollars)

Country or area	*Rapid response*	*Underfunded*	*Total disbursement*
Afghanistan		16 574 042	16 574 042
Algeria		2 984 040	2 984 040
Bangladesh		2 000 642	2 000 642
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	2 464 176		2 464 176
Burundi	3 479 171	2 970 162	6 449 333
Cameroon	4 188 872		4 188 872
Central African Republic	15 883 792		15 883 792
Chad	4 881 818	8 205 856	13 087 674
Colombia		3 493 954	3 493 954
Congo	751 772		751 772
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	2 102 708	12 996 679	15 099 387
Democratic Republic of the Congo	12 057 344		12 057 344
Djibouti		6 307 018	6 307 018
Eritrea		3 055 305	3 055 305
Ethiopia	6 972 905	17 000 030	23 972 935
Guinea	2 239 156		2 239 156
Guinea-Bissau	3 166 825		3 166 825
Haiti		7 480 100	7 480 100
Iraq	9 999 143		9 999 143
Jordan	14 754 548		14 754 548
Kenya	3 039 186		3 039 186
Lao People's Democratic Republic	753 504		753 504
Lebanon	17 531 518		17 531 518
Liberia		2 991 937	2 991 937
Madagascar	5 000 000	3 003 483	---
Malawi	8 049 782		8 049 782
Mali	17 883 983		17 883 983
Marshall Islands	1 000 000		1 000 000
Mauritania	4 470 372	4 008 632	8 479 004
Mozambique	5 842 338		5 842 338
Myanmar	4 999 616	2 999 832	7 999 448
Niger	6 409 438	7 891 736	14 301 174
Nigeria	6 431 433		6 431 433
Occupied Palestinian Territory	4 533 266		4 533 266
Pakistan	3 888 565	10 001 780	13 890 345

Country or area	*Rapid response*	*Underfunded*	*Total disbursement*
Philippines	33 297 068	2 998 998	36 296 066
Rwanda	5 544 797		5 544 797
Senegal	3 038 387		3 038 387
Somalia	1 415 815	19 787 197	21 203 012
South Sudan	11 586 879		11 586 879
Sudan	30 525 358	16 922 090	47 447 448
Syrian Arab Republic	40 403 809		40 403 809
Uganda	4 974 413	3 999 807	8 974 220
Yemen	2 000 492	16 800 822	18 801 314
Zimbabwe	1 967 415		1 967 415
Total	**307 529 664**	**174 474 142**	**482 003 806**

Note: The amount of total allocated funds in the present annex is based on the approval by the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator.

Annex IV

Central Emergency Response Fund loans: statement of income and expenditure and changes in reserves and fund balances for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2013

(United States dollars)

Income	
Interest income	171 950
Total	**171 950**
Expenditure	
Programme support costs (implementing partners)	–
Subtotal direct expenditure	**–**
Programme support costs (United Nations)	–
Total	**–**
Excess (shortfall) of income over expenditure	**171 950**
Transfers (to) from other funds[a]	(171 950)
Reserves and fund balances, beginning of period	30 000 000
Reserves and fund balances, end of period	**30 000 000**

[a] Represents a transfer to the grant element of the Central Emergency Response Fund in accordance with resolution 66/119.

Annex V

Central Emergency Response Fund loans from 1 January to 31 December 2013

(United States dollars)

Agency	*Country region*	*Year of disbursement*	*Amount*
Outstanding loans as at 1 January 2013			
Total			–
Loans disbursed from 1 January to 31 December 2013			
World Food Programme	Syrian Arab Republic	2013	27 000 000
Total			27 000 000
Loans repaid from 1 January to 31 December 2013			
Total			–
Outstanding loans as at 31 December 2013			
World Food Programme	Syrian Arab Republic	2013	27 000 000
Total			**27 000 000**